

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

*Charles P. O'Leary, Commissioner*

**For Immediate Release**

May 14, 2007

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**SCHEDULED OPENINGS BEGIN FOR  
PORTSMOUTH, NH – KITTERY, ME LIFT BRIDGES**

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation announces daily scheduled openings for river traffic begin on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge (US Route 1 Bypass) and the Memorial Bridge (US Route 1) over the Piscataqua River between Portsmouth, New Hampshire and Kittery, Maine.

The Memorial Bridge will open at 30-minute intervals on the hour and half hour from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

The Long Bridge will open at 30-minute intervals (15 minutes before and 15 minutes after the hour), also from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

These scheduled openings will continue through October 31, 2007. Both bridges will continue to open "on call" for commercial vessels in excess of 100 gross tons.

Ship owners are reminded of the following U.S. Coast Guard regulation, Section 117.11 (33 CFR Chapter 1), which is intended to eliminate unnecessary bridge openings: "No vessel owner or operator shall signal a drawbridge to open for a non-structural vessel appurtenance which is not essential to navigation or which is easily lowered."

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